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of Dr. Wm. H. Nichols, who is devoting all of his time to this work. The committee is cooperating with the Bureau of Mines, the U. S. Geological Survey and the Bureau of Soils in various problems, and all chemical problems are first submitted to this committee. The Manufacturing Chemists' Association of the United States and the National Fertilizer Association have also established offices in Washington in the Woodward Building.

THE AMERICAN PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND THE WAR

THE following letter has been addressed to members of the American Physiological Society:

The war has thrown upon the members of the national scientific societies unusual responsibilities. The growing conviction among those best fitted to know, that its further continuance will not be brief and that our country must act with her whole energy, makes it clear that every man of science must do his share. Some of the members of the American Physiological Society have entered military service and others are serving the country in a variety of other ways. As the example of England has shown, research is a field in which much can be accomplished, both of immediate relation to the needs of the moment and of permanent value. Under the direction of the committee on physiology of the National Research Council and the Council of National Defense comprehensive investigations of shock, industrial fatigue, food and nutrition, poisonous gases and means of protection from them, and other topics, are already under way. Other subjects demanding investigation will doubtless arise from time to time. The council of the American Physiological Society finds it desirable to know what its members are already doing or are willing to do in the way of national service, whether their laboratories will be open during the coming summer, whether they desire to undertake research in case of need, and, if so, what general lines of research they are prepared to follow. By the authority of the council, therefore, I write to make these inquiries of you. Any suggestions which you may feel like offering in regard to specific lines of research will be welcomed. Please make all records on the enclosed cards and return both to me without delay. The information so obtained will be turned over to the Committee on

Physiology of the National Research Council, to be used as seems best. The members of this committee are:

W. H. HOWELL, <i>Chairman</i> ;	FREDERIC S. LEE,
C. L. ALSBERG,	GRAHAM LUSK,
W. B. CANNON,	E. G. MARTIN,
A. J. CARLSON,	WALTER J. MEEK,
JOSEPH ERLANGER,	L. B. MENDEL
THEODORE HOUGH,	

In case your services can be utilized you will be duly communicated with.

(Signed) FREDERIC S. LEE

The registration cards accompanying the letter provided for the following entries:

What national service are you now doing?
Is it likely to continue during the summer?
Will your laboratory be available for research during the summer?
Are you prepared to undertake research for national service and, if so, in what general lines?
Suggestions regarding desirable lines of research.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

AN Anglo-French Scientific Commission which includes Professor Ernest Rutherford, of the University of Manchester, and Professor Henri Abraham, of the University of Paris, is at present in this country to cooperate with American men of science in the development and use of radio-telegraphy.

SECRETARY of the Navy Daniels has named Dr. William H. Welch, Dr. Flexner and Mr. Nathan Straus, of New York, as a committee to investigate Senator Calder's "round robin charge" that invalided sailors on the hospital ship *Solace* had been subjected to cruelty and neglect.

DR. E. W. MORLEY was awarded the Willard Gibbs medal at a recent meeting of the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society on May 18.

DR. RICHARD M. PEARCE, professor of research medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, has returned from a tour of three months through Brazil, Argentine and Uruguay to make a study of the medical, hospital, educational and public health conditions in those countries in the interest of the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation.